

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 18810 240506Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-08 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4386

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 502

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 658

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 18810

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, RH, JA

SUBJECT: PRESS LEAK ON ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: TOKYO 18800

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 18810 240506Z

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE JAPAN TIMES DECEMBER 24 CARRIES FRONT PAGE
ARTICLE ON OUR APPROACH TO GOJ (DECEMBER 23) CONCERNING ZIMBABWE
DEVELOPMENT FUND UNDER HEADLINE QTE U.S. ASKS FOR JAPAN RHODESIA
FUND AID UNQTE. LEAD PARAGRAPH STATES: QTE U.S. THURSDAY FORMALLY
ASKED JAPAN TO CONTRIBUTE AN UNDISCLOSED AMOUNT OF MONEY TO THE

U.S.-PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL TRUST FUND DESIGNED TO HELP WHITE RHODESIANS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF POWER FROM THE WHITE MINORITY TO THE BLACK MAJORITY, THE JAPAN TIMES LEARNED THURSDAY

UNQTE.

ARTICLE CONTINUES: QTE THE GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, IS PERPLEXED BY THE FORMAL PROPOSAL BECAUSE JAPAN WILL COME UNDER FIRE FROM BLACK AFRICAN NATIONS IF IT AGREES TO THE REQUEST, A FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE SAID.

PARA. TO ACCEPT THE U.S. REQUEST WILL MEAN JAPAN'S COOPERATION WITH THE SMITH REGIME, AND THAT WILL HAVE A GREAT POLITICAL IMPACT ON JAPAN'S AFRICAN POLICY WHICH SEEKS GOOD TERMS WITH BLACK AFRICAN NATIONS, THE SOURCE POINTED OUT. UNQTE. ARTICLE STATES THAT AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION REQUESTED FROM JAPAN NOT DISCLOSED BUT THAT QTE

KISSINGER HAS REPORTEDLY PROMISED THE WHITE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT THAT IT WILL ESTABLISH A TRUST FUND OF SOME TWO BILLION DOLLARS WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM FREE WORLD COUNTRIES TO HELP WHITE RHODESIANS SECURE THEIR ASSETS OR SAFE EXIT FROM THE COUNTRY UNQTE. ARTICLE SPECULATES, THEREFORE, THAT U.S. MAY HAVE ASKED OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE SIMILAR CONTRIBUTIONS BUT NAMES NO OTHER POSSIBLE DONORS.

2. ONLY OTHER PAPER TO CARRY STORY ON MORNING DECEMBER 24 WAS JAPANESE-LANGUAGE SANKEI. SANKEI REPORTED THAT FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE S

HAD CONFIRMED THAT USG HAD APPROACHED GOJ TO MAKE QTE APPROPRIATE CONTRIBUTION UNQTE TO WHAT DESCRIBED AS QTE TRUST FUND UNQTE ESTABLISHED AS PART OF NEGOTIATED RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. ARTICLE STATES THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD PLEDGED TO ESTABLISH FUND QTE TO GUARANTEE WHITES AGAINST POSSIBLE LOSS OF PROPERTY UNQTE AND THUS FUND IS QTE AN IMPORTANT KEY TO SUCCESS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 18810 240506Z

PLAN (FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT) UNQTE. ARTICLE CITES FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCES TO EFFECT THAT SIZE OF PROPOSED FUND WILL RANGE FROM ONE TO ONE AND A HALF BILLION DOLLARS AND SPECULATES THAT MAIN BURDEN PROBABLY WILL FALL ON US, JAPAN AND WEST GERMANY, WITH JAPAN'S SHARE ABOUT SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS. SANKEI COMMENTS THAT SINCE JAPAN'S POSITION DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF WEST IN TERMS OF OVERALL SECURITY INTERESTS INVOLVED, THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR NEW FUKUDA GOVERNMENT TO HANDLE. FONOFF MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA DIRGEN KAGAMI, HOWEVER, QUOTED ONLY AS SAYING THAT FOREIGN OFFICE WILL STUDY PROPOSAL, AWAITING ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW JAPANESE ADMINISTRATION.

3. I HAVE CALLED KAGAMI TO EXPRESS MY DEEP CONCERN AND DISMAY AT THIS LEAK AND MOST PARTICULARLY FOR THE MISCHIEVOUS AND COMPLETE DISTORTION OF US-UK PROPOSAL AS PORTRAYED IN JAPAN TIMES ARTICLE. KAGAMI WAS EMBARRASSED AND EXPRESSED REGRET. HE STATED THAT DURING EVENING DECEMBER 23 HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY SANKEI REPORTER WHO ASKED WHETHER GOJ HAD RECEIVED ANY FORMAL APPROACH

ON ECONOMIC FUND FOR RHODESIA. (DURING OUR MEETING ON DECEMBER 23 KAGAMI TOLD ME THAT PRIOR TO OUR APPROACH, HE HAD BEEN QUERIED SEVERAL TIMES ON THIS MATTER BY PRESS.) KAGAMI CONFIRMED TO REPORTER THAT GOJ HAD RECEIVED A PROPOSAL BUT REFUSED TO COMMENT ON DETAILS, GOJ REACTION OR OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH ALSO HAD BEEN APPROACHED. KAGAMI SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW SOURCE OF JAPAN TIMES STORY BUT WAS SURE THAT ITS DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL WAS QTE ENTIRELY ITS OWN FABRICATION UNQTE.

4. EMBOFF PREVIOUSLY CONTACTED OKAZAKI (KAGAMI'S DEPUTY) TO REGISTER OUR CONCERN. OKAZAKI SAID THAT KISSINGER-CROSLAND LETTERS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO MINISTER AND VICE MINISTER LATE AFTERNOON DECEMBER 23 TOGETHER WITH BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WHICH HAD BEEN CONSISTENT WITH OUR CHARACTERIZATION OF PROPOSAL AS DESIGNED TO ASSIST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ZIMBABWE AS WHOLE AND NOT TO COMPENSATE WHITES. OKAZAKI WAS DISTURBED BY WHAT HE DESCRIBED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 TOKYO 18810 240506Z

AS AN UNAUTHORIZED LEAK AND SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

5. I HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE TO KAGAMI THAT OPPORTUNITY WOULD BE FOUND FOR FOREIGN OFFICE TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT ON NATURE OF US-UK PROPOSAL. AT SAME TIME, I AGAIN URGED THAT FOREIGN OFFICE AVOID BEING

DRAWN INTO ANY DISCUSSION OF DETAILS. KAGAMI READILY AGREED ON BOTH POINTS. HE ALSO ASSURED ME THAT SUCH PRESS STORIES AS JAPAN TIMES ARTICLE WOULD NOT AFFECT IN ANY WAY GOJ'S CONSIDERATION OF THE US-UK PROPOSAL. SHOESMITH

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